

Pippa's Guardians Covid-19 Policy

Overview

Pippa's Guardians is a fully accredited gold standard AEGIS guardianship organisation. We operate under guidance and advice from AEGIS in relation to the Covid 19 pandemic. The AEGIS Covid 19 Safe Charter can be found [here](#). This advice is provided by AEGIS to schools, overseas parents and other member organisations.

Pippa's Guardians - an AEGIS accredited guardian

AEGIS accredited guardianship organisations are professionally structured organisations which are fully insured, often trained in Mental Health and always in Safeguarding, offering 24/7 emergency assistance throughout the academic year.

The group of AEGIS accredited guardianship organisations regularly discuss matters relating to Covid 19. The aim is to present a united approach to the assistance that AEGIS guardianship organisations can offer during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. AEGIS recommend that overseas parents familiarise themselves with the rigorous inspection process undertaken by AEGIS guardianship organisations which can be found [here](#). They recommend that parents choose an AEGIS accredited guardian whose processes and practices have been fully inspected by trained and independent inspectors.

AEGIS accredited guardianship organisations have been praised by schools, agents and parents for their hard work and swift action during the Covid 19 crisis. Pippa's Guardians were pro-active in assisting schools, students and parents when schools were closed with short notice in March 2020 and have subsequently worked closely with all parties as the pandemic challenge grew to ensure we offered the highest level of support to our students and their families.

Pippa's Guardians continue to monitor the situation with Covid-19 regularly and will always follow guidance at Gov.UK to ensure full compliance with Covid 19 regulations.

Pippa's Guardians also follow advice from and are part of [Safe Schools UK](#) who, in turn, refer to the Boarding Schools' Association (BSA) and follow their [Covid-Safe Charter](#).

Coordination of safe travel to and from the UK

It is likely that some travel arrangements will need to be planned at the last minute as government guidance and individual country entry requirements are updated. Pippa's Guardians can support parents with all travel arrangements and provide assistance on arrival 24/7.

Pippa's Guardians will organise airport transfers with drivers who are fully vetted and experienced in transporting international students. Our Pippa's Guardians driver guidelines can be found [here](#).

Pippa's Guardians will help support the student or parent to complete the online Passenger Locator Form via the link found [here](#) before arrival into the UK. The form cannot be submitted until 48 hours before arrival. The student will need to carry a copy of the completed form with them and the form will be required on arrival at the UK border, in either a printed version, or a copy on a mobile phone.

Travel & Testing

When travelling to England, what is required in terms of testing and quarantine on entry depends on where that person has been before arrival.

Pippa's Guardians will always follow the current government guidelines on quarantining and will help to ensure that parents and students understand these requirements.

Please note the current Government guidance for quarantining and testing on arrival in England can be found [here](#). Rules for Wales can be found [here](#)

Full details on ending a quarantine period early using Test to Release can be found [here](#)

Students returning to their home countries

Several countries have banned or limited travel from the UK, meaning some students will be unable to return to their home country. For individual country guidance please see [here](#).

For Hong Kong – Guidance taken from the Hong Kong Economic & Trade Office can be found here available [here](#).

For Japan – please see [here](#) for further details.

If boarding students display Covid-19 symptoms whilst at school

Pippa's Guardians always follow the latest Public Health and government guidance. Public Health and the Department for Education advise that Covid positive or symptomatic international students should self-isolate where they show symptoms/test positive and should not be moving to different locations.

Host families and educational guardians are therefore not in a position to take over the care of students who have symptoms or have tested positive for Covid-19 at boarding school.

Schools also follow Public Health advice and that of the Safe Schools UK and BSA Charters and they understand the need to provide isolation on school premises. Further information can be found [here](#).

In the event of a temporary school closure

Where schools are unable to keep their boarding houses open, Pippa's Guardians can provide host family accommodation for healthy students.

If there is a school closure and students at the affected school are displaying symptoms and/or awaiting test results for Covid -19, Pippa's Guardians will work to current government guidance and do whatever they can to safely support a student whilst being mindful of community transmission risks.

If a student develops symptoms after being placed in a host family and the school is closed, Pippa's Guardians will instigate the testing and isolation procedures found [here](#) and will continue to support the student until they complete their isolation period.

If a student develops symptoms during a residential course the responsibility for the care of the student will remain with the course provider only if they are a Pippa's Guardians student.

In the event of a full and prolonged school closure

In the event of another prolonged school closure, Pippa's Guardians would continue to follow the latest advice given at government guidance. The expected procedures are set out below.

Healthy students must ultimately and as soon as is practicable either:

- return home
- be looked after by their parents
- be looked after by another responsible adult (family friend/relative 25 years+)

Pippa's Guardians will support the school with the student's forward planning wherever we can. We can provide host family accommodation for healthy students. This maybe with their regular host family or an alternative family. The student will be asked to take a Covid-19 test before joining a host family. We will support as far as possible with finding isolation arrangements for a covid positive student whilst working to current government guidance and being mindful of community transmission risks.

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